

## MANY CHALLENGES COME FROM AFAR

Hark, the Doleful Sounds from  
the Very Dim, Distant  
Past.

James C. Isaminger, in the Philadelphia North American, contributes the following account of Jack Johnson's recent victory and other phases of the arena:

No sooner had the cables pumped the news of Johnson's victory over Burris in Australia, and the consequent shift in the heavyweight crown, than there was a flurry in the challenge market.

From a distance ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 miles everybody who has ever fitted a pair of gloves on his fist has expressed a willingness to take on the giant dark flash. When the new champion comes a little closer there may be one or two who finally return the challenge. When he finally returns to America there will be few who will contest that they are heavyweights.

Over in London the venerable Robert Fitzsimmons sat on a cable key waiting for the news. When it arrived he immediately shot one back to Johnson. Fitz will waive the \$30,000 out of \$35,000 clause exacted by Burns and fight at any terms to suit Johnson.

Fitz would make a great opponent for Johnson if only he would forget his age and the fact that Johnson stopped him in two rounds in this city a year and a half ago. If this match is made it probably will be fought at Nijni Novgorod, where a Russian promoter stands ready to offer a barrel of caviar and a gallon of vodka for the card.

The green-blue grass of Kentucky furnishes another aspirant. He is one Marvin Hart, of Louisville, who boasts a decision victory over Johnson in "Prisco" in 1905, although "Lila Arthur" was under bond to keep the peace. At that time Hart was a big Jack in the heavyweight division, but since has slumped badly. Mike Schreck, a third-rater, having knocked him cold. If Hart and Johnson sign, this bout will be put on at Saratoga with a wagon load of pinapples the purse.

A Willing Barik. Passing to the next cage we have Tom Sharkey, white, Ireland, saloon-keeper, Fourteenth Street, New York. Sharkey has not been in training for nearly five years, but even since he has been a conscientious challenger of everybody who happens to bob up. All this ballyhoo work helps the cash register at Sharkey's, although he has more intention of going into the ring than into the bar.

Sharkey, however, loosened up strong enough to put a message on the cable, and the card has been eagerly snapped up by the Senegambian A. C. of Zanibara.

His undertaker used his shovel and pick, and up popped Peter Maher, the harp with the broken strings. Old Peter says that he is still there with the kick, and would take on Johnson for a reasonable guarantee.

Maher says he is not afraid of the footy game, for he boxed the Fighting Ghost of Merchville, at the Douglas Athletic Club here Saturday night, and made that well-known devourer of fowl pie some Toughkenamon, Pa., his first call on this match.

That dashing boulevardier, Kid McCoy, also notified Johnson in France that he would be pleased to take him on, providing certain conditions are agreed upon. McCoy bars the right wing to the jaw and the left jab to the head or body, and insists that he be permitted to carry a blackjack. As McCoy is now a big favorite in France, this bout will be decided at the Abbatine Sporting Club, in the Rue de Bunk.

Social Register's Challenge. Philadelphia is there strong with a candidate. He is Tony Biddle, the recognized heavyweight champion of the Main Line country clubs. Among Mr. Biddle's victims are a French valet, two Philadelphia Country Club waiters, a baggage-smiler, and a record entitled him to recognition.

So willing is Mr. Biddle to grasp the world's title for the exclusive set that he agrees to waive his end of the purse and fight for the benefit of the Drexel family or any other deserving charity. The Merion Cricket Club is sure to land this bout if Johnson does not flunk.

Mr. Jeffries declines to re-enter the ring on the ground of business and convenience. The former title-holder is too much preoccupied carrying grip-loads of yellowbacks to the Los Angeles banks to think of clean breaks or catchweights.

In addition, he puts a 300-pound

Amusements.

**BIJOU--All Week**  
SPECIAL MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY.  
MISS OCEANIC.  
IN TWO OF HER SUCCESSES.  
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY.

**The Girl From Texas**  
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY.  
THE GIRL RAFFLES.

**ACADEMY--Tuesday**  
HENRY LUDLOWE  
In a play founded on the life of Poe.  
THE RAVEN

**Academy--Friday and Saturday**  
MATINEE BOTH DAYS.  
THE MUSICAL COMEDY.  
A KNIGHT FOR A DAY  
WITH FRANK DESHON.

**Academy--Wednesday and Thursday**  
HARRY BERESFORD  
IN THE COMEDY SUCCESS,  
WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?  
Prices: Matinee, 25c. to \$1; Night, 25c. to \$1.50.

**LUDIN THEATRE.**  
Continuation of the 2 to 11 P. M.  
Vaudeville, Life Motion Pictures,  
Illustrated Songs.  
General Admission, 25c. Ladies and Children, 15c. Matinee, 10c.  
No Reserved Seats.

**Basket Ball Game**  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY VS. RICHMOND.  
MONDAY, 8 P. M.

To-night at 8:30.  
Tickets: Gentlemen, 50; Ladies (boys and girls under 17), 25.

**For Your**  
Auto  
Buggy  
Carriage

The very best of Tops, Aprons and Wind Shields. Also, we do expert general Trimming, and do it promptly.

**Richmond Carriage Trimming Co.,**  
Manufacturers  
Buggy Top, Cushion Sets,  
1544 EAST CARY

**Drafting of Their Shortstop Star**  
Comes as a Bolt from the Blue.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
LYNCHBURG, VA., December 28.—The announcement of the drafting of Shortstop Rahn by the Reading team, of the Philadelphia League, came as a thunderbolt from a clear sky to the local fans, as well as to the owners of the Shoemakers, and Rahn will not be given up without a protest on the part

of the management of the team. Little, of course, is to be expected from a protest, but there is no doubt but Secretary Farrell will hear from President Lazarus.

The draft has been allowed by Secretary Farrell, and that's all there is to it, as far as the Reading team is concerned, but it has certainly put the new Michigan heavyweight, who is starting like a world-beater, may be moulded into championship form inside of a year by Johnny Kelly, and he may have to be considered.

Nevertheless, at the present time, Johnson looks unbeatable. The only one who ever decisively whipped him was his mother, and this took place in his boyhood days.

Nelson's Ultimatum. Battling Nelson, the lightweight champion, refused to let Johnson's nonstop at the right columns. He hit his typewriter in New York Saturday and out came a story that he would appear only once more in the ring. He names the conditions.

He declares that his next opponent must be the survivor of an elimination contest. The Dane wants Freddy Welsh and Cyclone Johnny Thompson to fight forty-five rounds and Tommy Murphy go the same distance with Paddy McFarland.

Then he says that the winners of the two bouts must meet for the same distance, and he will take on the winner of the last clash. That would be a good way of solving the problem of the Dane's next opponent, but it looks a little visionary. Managers don't care to lose their meat tickets so easily.

A great bout is expected at the Olympic Athletic Association's club house, in Eastington, next Wednesday night, when Young Loughrey, the Manayunk mauler, travels fifteen rounds with Unk Russell, who now calls himself a professional athlete. The pair have no superiors as mixers, and they will take on the winner of the last clash. That would be a good way of solving the problem of the Dane's next opponent, but it looks a little visionary. Managers don't care to lose their meat tickets so easily.

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## FATHER OF AMERICAN GOLF



JOHN REID, SR.,  
One of the founders of St. Andrew's Golf Club, which recently celebrated its twentieth anniversary.

dent in the Fairbanks, which is much too plenty for anybody having Queensberry intentions. Jeff may safely be squashed, as his retirement looks as permanent as the place of real estate known as the Sphinx.

Some possibilities are the winner of the Kaufmann-Barry bout, Sam Langford and Stanley Ketchell. Al Kuback, the new Michigan heavyweight, who is starting like a world-beater, may be moulded into championship form inside of a year by Johnny Kelly, and he may have to be considered.

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## CAPTAIN PARROTT LEADS GOLF FIELD

Many Contestants in Annual  
Holiday Event at Pinehurst,  
North Carolina.

PINEHURST, N. C., December 28.—Captain R. B. Parrott, U. S. A., of New Brunswick, N. J., led a field of fifty-eight contestants in the race for the trophy offered for the best qualification in the annual holiday week golf tournament here to-day with a card of 33. R. E. Sproule, of the Royal Portrush Club, Ireland, and James C. Parrott, Jr., of Shinnecock Hills, tied for second honor, at 84.

Qualification scores in the first division were as follows: R. B. Parrott, New Brunswick, N. J., 83; R. E. Sproule, Royal Portrush, Ireland, 84; James C. Parrott, Jr., Shinnecock Hills, L. I., 84; R. M. Hagan, New York, 85; L. Becker, Woodland, Mass., 86; R. H. Gwaltney, Essex, Wilmington, N. C., 87; Wilbur C. Johnson, Canoe Brook, Homer, Dyer, Southport, Mass., 88; H. W. Ormsbee, Alphen, Mass., 51; C. H. Hudson, Rochester, N. Y., 92; Dr. Frederick L. Shaw, Fairfield, Conn., 93; W. L. Hurd, Oakmont, Pittsburgh, 93; Dr. R. G. McKee, Oakmont, 94; H. E. Cushman, Winchester, Mass., 94; H. B. White, Ridgewood, N. J., 95; G. U. White, Ridgewood, N. J., 95.

Amusements.

Academy—"The Raven."  
Bijou—"The Girl from Texas."  
Lubin—Continuation Vaudeville.

"The Girl from Texas." In the part of May Percy, the girl, Cecil Spooner made something of a hit and far overshadowed any member of the cast supporting him in "The Girl from Texas" at the Bijou last night. The show as a whole was well received and the scenery was particularly good for the class of performance.

"The Girl from Texas" is mostly love and melodrama, with enough of a plot thrown around it to hold it together. The girl, fresh from the "wild and woolly," is sent to New York for her schooling. She is beautiful, as well as in other respects, as betrays a heroine. To complete her education she goes to Europe, and, of course, meets the inevitable nobleman, otherwise described as an affinity, who promptly falls in love with her. The course of true love rambles along much after the old stories; his lordship is rescued from a very precarious position by his heroine, who does not forget the use of the lasso, even after she has become acclimated to high life. Back on the ranch in Texas the story ends with all of the loveliness and "happy ever after" that one could wish to expect.

Durno a Puzzler. Durno, the truly mysterious, entertained a well-filled house at the Academy last night with an assortment of magical tricks that kept his audience of the magic of his performance. He started to finish in a program of five acts the magician not only managed to perform his stunts on the stage, but went among the audience, relieving many of heretofore unseen coins, chickens and snakes. The final number, a metamorphosis, proved to be most puzzling of all, when Durno, after securely locking his assistant in a trunk, appears in his place after the count of three.

Carl Herrmann, with instrumental selections, furnished an amusing musical addition.

"The Raven" To-night. Messrs. Hazleton and North, managers for Henry Ludlowe in George Hazleton's play, "The Raven," which will be seen at the Academy to-night, have surrounded their star with a company of notable assistants. Among the women may be mentioned especially Miss Julia Ashton and Miss Violet Houk. Miss Ashton is known to be a woman of recognized ability and histrionic attainments, possessing rare beauty, as well as a natural adaptability for a stage career. She is the classic model of the actress in the part of Virginia Clemm, whom Edgar Allan Poe married when he was about twenty-one years of age. Miss Ashton has spent several years of her life in the portrayal of nearly all of the popular heroines immortalized by Shakespeare. A Rosalind, it is said of her that she has never been surpassed in the rendition of that beautiful character. Miss Houk comes of a distinguished Southern family, her father being Judge Leonidas C. Houk, for several years a representative in Congress from Tennessee.

Harry Beresford, who is this season touring in the comedy success of "Who's Your Friend?" which will appear at the Academy to-morrow and Thursday and Thursday matinee, has an amusing experience recently down South. To reach one of the towns he was advertised to appear in, he was compelled to take a single track line that was full of kinks and hillocks

that reminded one of a "Rocky Road to Dublin." During the journey he was surprised to find a stoppage made at a place where there was apparently no station. Putting his head out of the window, he noticed that the conductor was walking leisurely down the track, "anything wrong?" inquired the comedian, anxiously. "Oh, nothing much, sir," said the conductor, reassuringly. "Only the signal was again; but I just put it right, and we'll be off again directly."

"A Knight for a Day."

Few musical plays of the past decade can boast of the exploits of "A Knight for a Day," the latest B. C. Whitney success, which comes to the Academy on Friday and Saturday, with a matinee both days. It went into Manager Whitney's own theatre in Chicago when he took over the Faddists' place and gave his own name to it, and it continued there for eleven months, after which it was brought to New York, where it delighted large audiences at Wallack's for six months. New Bill at Lubin.

This week's bill at the Lubin fully merits the tremendous patronage of yesterday, and probabilities are that the next playhouse will be crowded throughout the week. All of the acts are good. The Four Courtlands introduce many novel musical instruments, one being a violin with one string, made of a cheroot box and a broomstick. Two little tots about four and six years cleverly sing "The Merry Old Song" and "The Merry Old Song."

Miss Wrigley, a clever comedienne, sings her illustrated song, while the pictures are complete plays in themselves.

Santa Claus at Epiphany. Santa Claus, in all his glory, visited the children of Epiphany Sunday-school last night and distributed presents to them from his house in store. The good man made his appearance through a chimney, attractively arranged amid Christmas trees, and brought joy to the hearts of the little ones with toys, books and candy. Several carols were sung by the members of the Sunday-school.

Real Estate for Sale.

FOR SALE.  
Nos. 11 and 13 S. Cherry Street

At the request of Mr. R. R. Padgett, of Asheville, N. C., we are authorized to sell these houses at a bargain to make quick sale in the next few days. They are brick houses with five rooms each, with water and gas. For terms, etc., apply to

N. W. BOWE & SON,  
FOR SALE TO CLOSE AN ESTATE.  
163 ACRES

Good improvements, four miles from Richmond; produced this year 200 tons of good hay and large crop of grain, etc.; 114 acres; five miles from Richmond; building, orchard and timber, \$3,000 GEO. E. & CO.,  
1009 EAST MAIN STREET.

Real Estate for Rent.

FOR RENT.  
TWO BEAUTIFUL HOUSES,  
On Park Avenue, at car line, well heated and up-to-date.  
DRINKARD'S,  
423 1-2 North Sixth Street.

Auction Sales, This Day.

THE VALENTINE AUCTION CO.  
PHONE 1808  
618 EAST BROAD ST.

FINE STOCK OF STABLE AND FANCY GROCERIES, ALASKA REFRIGERATORS, COOKING UTENSILS, SCALES, ETC., AT AUCTION.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH.  
AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M. at the EAST MAIN GROCERY CO., 417 1/2 NORTH SIXTH STREET.

At the direction of Mr. B. E. Pettus, who is discontinuing business, we will sell his stock of fine Staple Groceries, all fresh goods, and embraces HERRINGS, Pickles, Dressings, Mustards, Jellies, Preserves, Baked Beans, etc.; Atlantic and Domino Matches, Hominy, Rice and other Groceries, Peas, Beans, Chipped Beef, Corned Beef, etc.; Griffs, Hominy, Flaked Rice, Grape-Nuts, Quaker Oats and other cereals, Cinnamon, Nappin, Ivory, Sweetener and other goods, and, in fact, a full line of first class shelf groceries, etc., all of which are fresh and desirable.

FIXTURES.  
consisting of Alaska Refrigerator (single size), Counter Coffee Mill, Chipped Beef Chopper, Hanging and Counter Scales, Meat Tools, Four-Blade Electric Chopping, Fan Cheese Case, Good Bicycle, etc.  
Sale positive.  
THE VALENTINE AUCTION CO.,  
Auctioneers.

A SNOW-STORM

Will do untold damage to the roof. Ofttimes it is cheaper to put on a new than to repair the old. Your requirements can better be met at our place than elsewhere, for we carry a complete line of

Painted, Galvanized, Bestoid Rubber, Carey's Magnesia

ROOFING

TIN PLATE  
WRITE US FOR PRICES.

BALDWIN & BROWN, Inc., General Hardware

1557 East Main Street, Richmond, Va.  
TRACKS: No. 12 C. & O.; Seventeenth Street, Southern; No. 1, S. A. L.  
WAREHOUSES: Seventeenth Street; Cary Street

To consider Holiday Gifts that will prove pleasing and useful. A pair of our

Superior Gold Eyeglasses or Spectacles belong to that class. Lenses will be exchanged to the eyesight of the recipient without charge. Other handsome presents are: Eyeglasses, Chatelaine, Lognettes, Opera Glasses, Opera Bags, Field Glasses, Thermometers, Barometers, Microscopes, Telescopes, Compasses, Auto Loggins, Magnifiers, Hand Readers, and last, but not least.

KODAKS

Free instruction in Amateur Photography to those who receive them. All prices and the lowest. Mail orders receive prompt and careful attention.

The S. Galeski Optical Co.,  
Main and Eighth  
Broad and Third

that reminded one of a "Rocky Road to Dublin." During the journey he was surprised to find a stoppage made at a place where there was apparently no station. Putting his head out of the window, he noticed that the conductor was walking leisurely down the track, "anything wrong?" inquired the comedian, anxiously. "Oh, nothing much, sir," said the conductor, reassuringly. "Only the signal was again; but I just put it right, and we'll be off again directly."

"A Knight for a Day."

Few musical plays of the past decade can boast of the exploits of "A Knight for a Day," the latest B. C. Whitney success, which comes to the Academy on Friday and Saturday, with a matinee both days. It went into Manager Whitney's own theatre in Chicago when he took over the Faddists' place and gave his own name to it, and it continued there for eleven months, after which it was brought to New York, where it delighted large audiences at Wallack's for six months. New Bill at Lubin.

This week's bill at the Lubin fully merits the tremendous patronage of yesterday, and probabilities are that the next playhouse will be crowded throughout the week. All of the acts are good. The Four Courtlands introduce many novel musical instruments, one being a violin with one string, made of a cheroot box and a broomstick. Two little tots about four